Two Barriers to Successfully Collecting Handwriting Samples

1.) People (At Least Sometimes) Mistake It For Forgery

People (understandably, at least up to a certain point) mistake the collection of alphabets and digits of handwriting as the intent to forge, or commit impersonation crimes with, the handwriting samples.

While some people may do this, not everyone who collects handwriting samples is out to steal, impersonate, misrepresent, or forge; some are genuinely curious about what kind of handwriting styles exist, and about other aspects of handwriting, which may be answerable (at least in part) by the collection of handwriting samples.

2.) Neoliberal Rent-Seeking Systems Get in the Way

Neoliberal rent-seeking systems, including in licensing, can get in the way of the successful collection of handwriting samples, and can also serve as a barrier to the successful creation and/or distribution of handwriting fonts.

An example of a barrier to the latter happened to a collaborative handwriting-font project called *SongwritersFonts*. A legal nastygram was sent, leading to the shutdown of the font project. See: Andrea James, "Nastygrams shut down site that created fonts of famous songwriters' handwriting", *BoingBoing*, https://boingboing.net/2018/04/17/nastygrams-shut-down-site-that.html.

Who benefits from this arrangement? Certainly *not* us!
Who benefits from this arrangement? Possibly:
1.) Places like the Artists Rights Society, or ARS, who are known for their neoliberal, legalistic schemes against handwriting-font enthusiasts as well as others. See: *Marcel Duchamp* https://luc.devroye.org/fonts-27255.html from Luc Devroye's *On Snot and Fonts* website.
2.) Ruling-class neoliberals, who wish to transform everything, even handwriting, collection of samples of handwriting, and transformation of them into fonts, into financialized markets.